What's the Buzz about Inclusion?

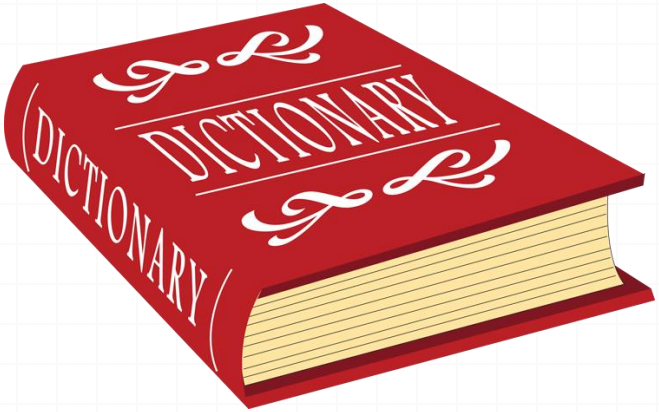
March 1, 2016

University of Montana

Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities

Questions to Be Explored

- What is ***inclusion***?
- What is not ***inclusion***?
- What does it look like?
- Why does it matter?
- How can we make it happen?



Definitions

- "An inclusive environment is one that replicates the natural proportion." "Inclusion means all people, in all environments, all the time…"

  (Kathie Snow, "What Is Inclusion? What's Not?")

- "Inclusion is being a part of what everyone else is, being welcomed and embraced as a member who belongs."

  (Kids Together, Inc., http://www.kidstogether.org/inclusion.htm)

- ".. a sense of belonging: feeling respected, valued for who you are; feeling a level of supportive energy and commitment from others so that you can do your best."

  (Miller and Katz (2002), as cited on Keys to Inclusion website: http://www.keystoinclusion.co.uk/what-is-inclusion-2/?doing_wp_cron=1456715780.1138169765472412109375)

"I think one of the core qualities desired by the people with disabilities I have known is social belonging. By that I mean being a part of things, including something meaningful to do and a good home in a place where they can have fun with their friends and family."

(Dileo, D. 2007. *Raymond's room*. St. Augustine: Training Resource Network, Inc., Page 117)

Belonging

- Be cautious in what we support as "inclusive"
- Physical inclusion ≠ social inclusion
- Relationships (marriage, clubs, community, church, family, work, etc.) create resilience…they act as buffers to protect us from tough times and tough situations

Inclusive or Not?

- Students with disabilities attend neighborhood school but stay in separate classroom all day
- Local service club membership includes a number of individuals with disabilities who participate alongside people without disabilities
- Basketball team for youth with disabilities
- Basketball team for all middle school students
- Play at community theater – actors/actresses are people with and without disabilities
- Dance for teens with disabilities at local youth center

Dr. Martin Blair

WHAT IS INCLUSION ANYWAY?

MARCH 1, 2016

Rural Institute

Promoting Inclusive Communities

THE NATION'S "PROPER" GOALS…

- Assure Equality of Opportunity
- Full Participation
- Independent Living
- Economic Self-sufficiency

50 YEARS OF DISABILITY CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVITY

ACCESS

WHAT'S NEXT?

1960s '70s '80s '90s 2000s '10s

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INCLUSION…

ACCESS

\+ BEING THERE

= ALL THAT **AND**

PARTICIPATION

INCLUSION REQUIRES

- Accessible SPACE
- Accessible ACTIVITIES and PROGRAMS

SHARED EXPERIENCES

WHAT IS INCLUSION? SCHOOL

Devin's Story

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WHAT IS INCLUSION? HOME

Sierra's Story

WHAT IS INCLUSION? WORK

Allen's Story

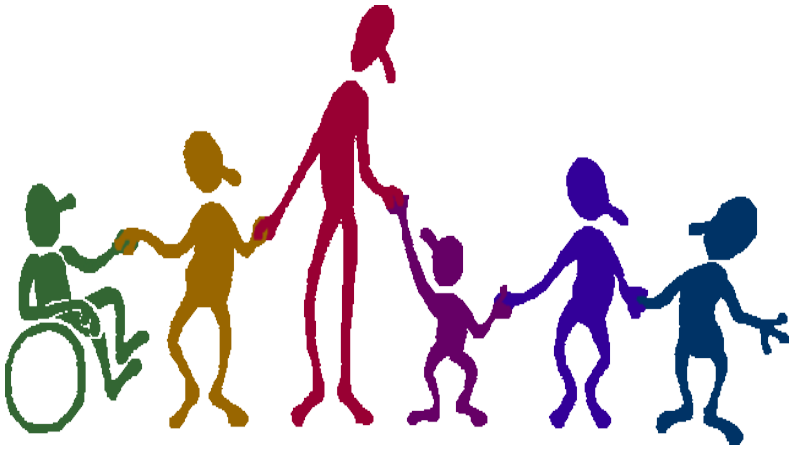
Lissie's Story

WHAT IS INCLUSION? DECISIONS

Where do I live?
What do I eat?
Where do I work?
What should I wear?
How do I spend my time?

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

- What decisions do you make?
- What decisions do you WANT to make?
- Who can help you? More importantly, WHO do you trust to help?
- What will you do to **prepare** yourself to be more included?



Maclaen Burningham

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Consumer Advisory Council Hard at Work

Community Investment Fund

http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu/news/227-community-investment-fund

Advertising the CIF

4

Applications Coming In…

5

First CIF Funds Awarded!

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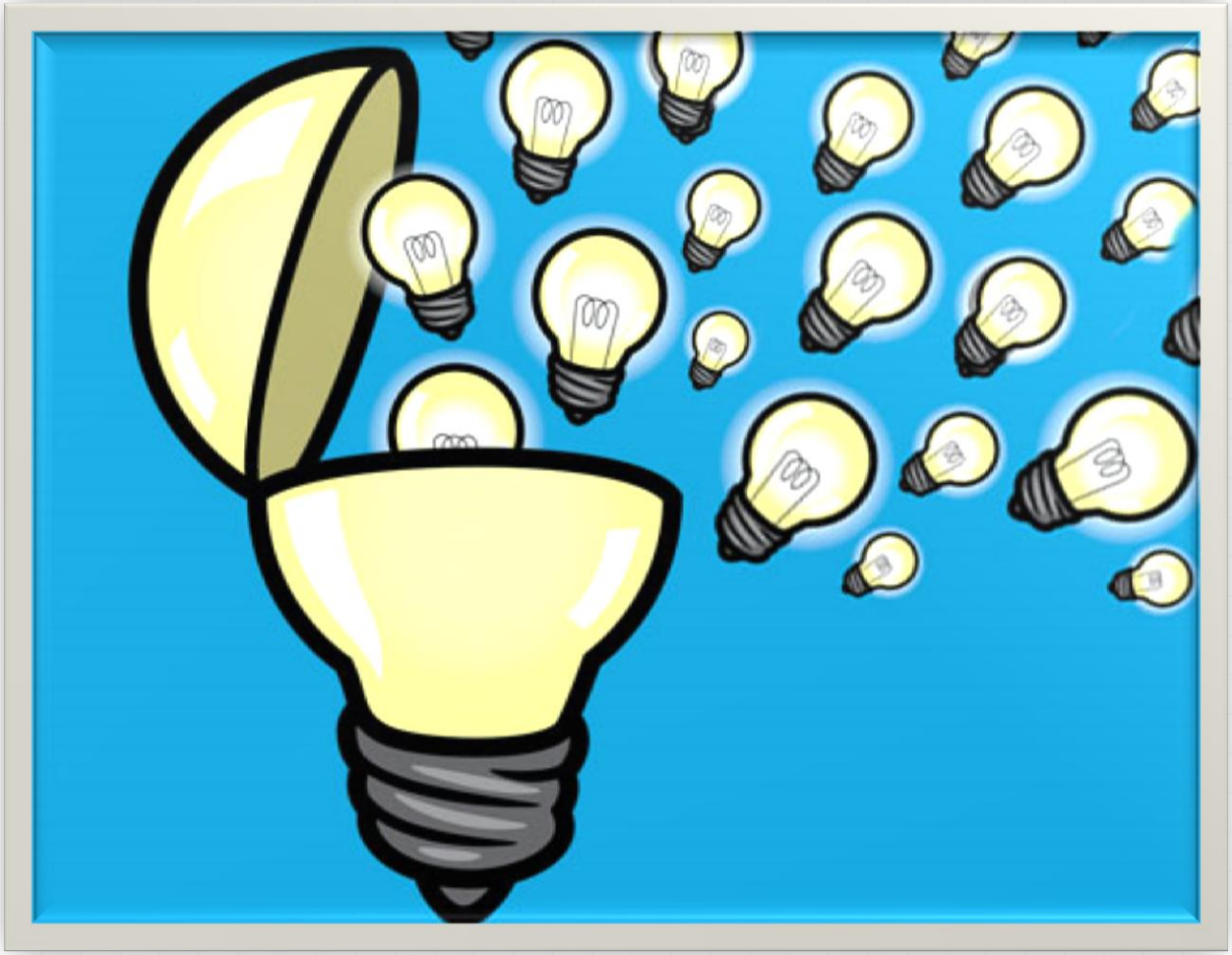

Applications for 2016 funding will be available March 1st.
The application deadline is May 1st.

Please note: Funding is for Montana projects only.

7 Inclusion helps people feel more comfortable…

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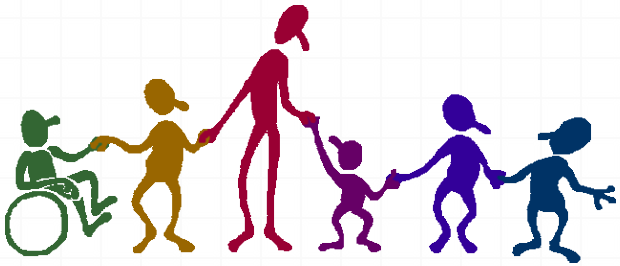
Inclusion Feels Great!!!

9 How can we make inclusion happen?



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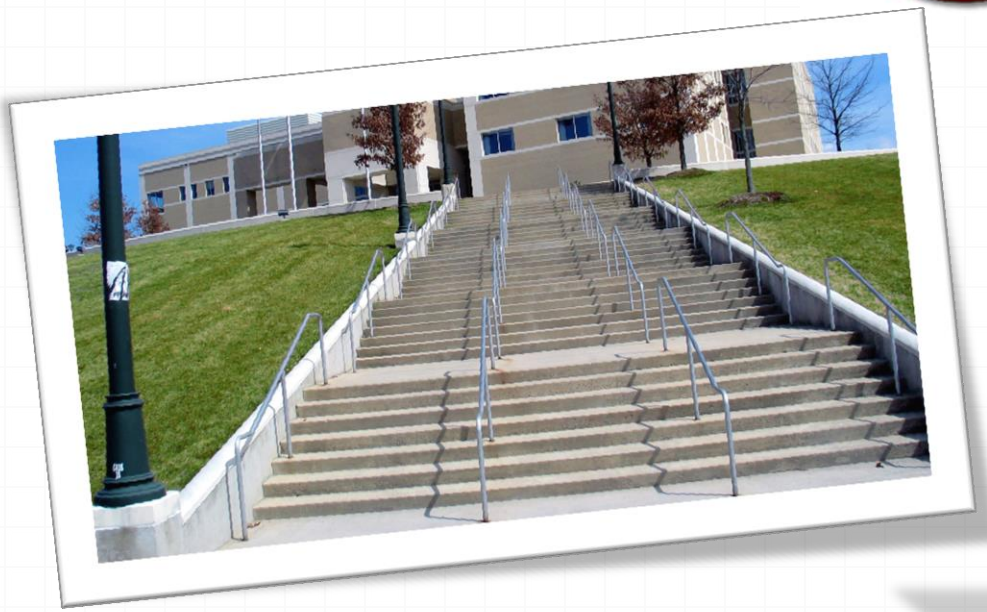
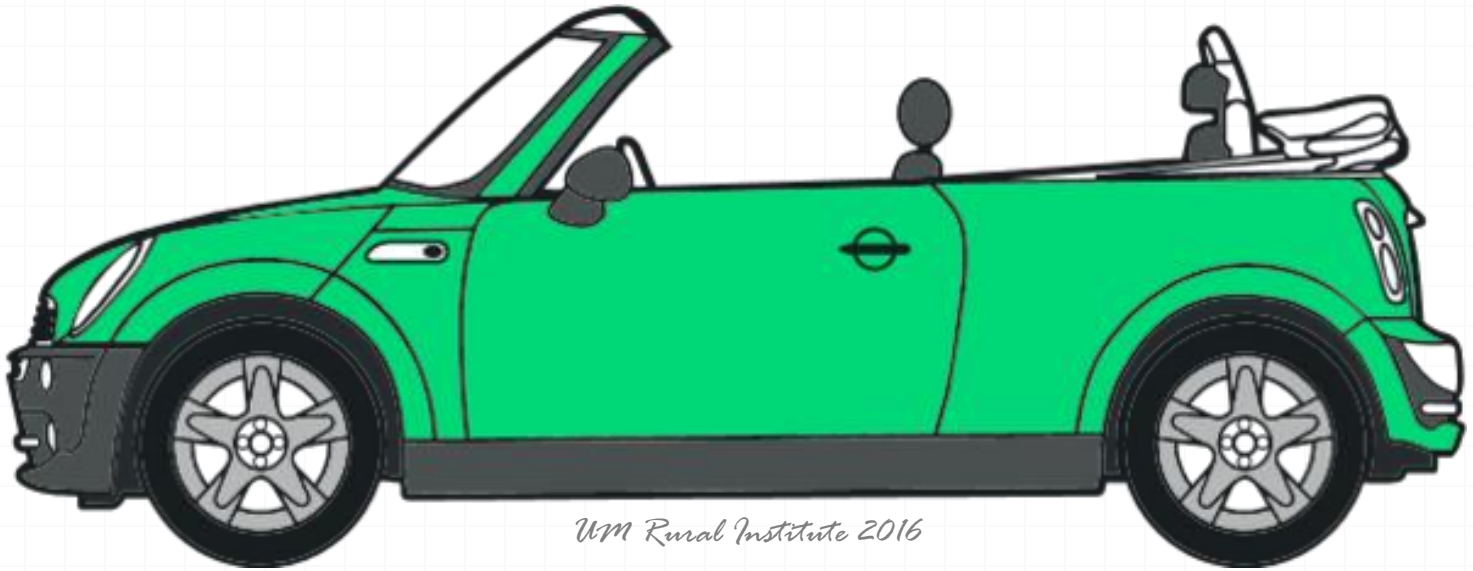
Inaccessible ≠ Inclusive



11 # Consider Transportation



12 Be Reliable, Be Respectful

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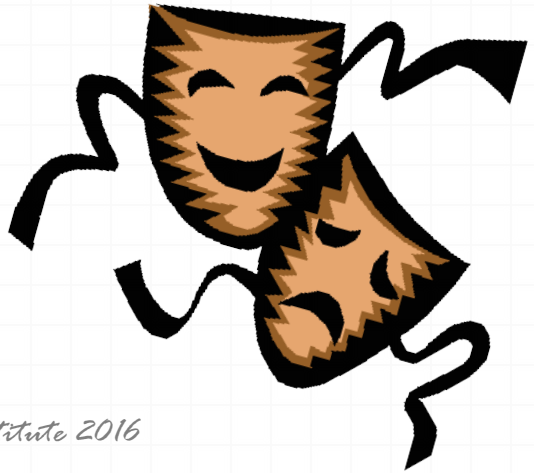
We are all in this together!

Mathalia Stroethoff



My name is Mathalia Stroethoff.
I graduated from high school June 2013.

I am active in my community.

- At Missoula Children's Theater I volunteer as an usher.

- At the University Rec Center I take classes such as Oula, Barre, and Pilates.

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I swim at the Grizzly Pool.

- High School and Club swimming are all done. As an adult, I enjoy Adult Coached Lap Swim.

Helen is my Swim Coach.

- Helen Houlihan is head Coach for Missoula High School Swimming and she coaches Adult Coached Lap Swim at the Grizzly Pool.

- I text her in the morning; she picks me up in her car; we dance to Oula music on the way to the pool!

I work at Ink Realty Group.

- Prepare listing files for agents
- Photocopying as needed
- Distribute mail to agents
- Recycling

I work at The Writing Center.

- I enter log-in slips data into the computer data base.
- I have been working here since Summer 2012.

Kelly is my boss.

- Kelly Webster is the Director of The Writing Center at the University of Montana.
- I like to take photos at the parties.

Resources

- *Mainstreaming, Integration, Inclusion: Is There a Difference?* by Kathie Snow
  - https://www.disabilityisnatural.com/library.html
- *What Is Inclusion? What's Not?* By Kathie Snow
  - https://www.disabilityisnatural.com/library.html
- "Inclusion Is Belonging" YouTube Video
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_qgW9FWEgQ
- Inclusion Network website
  - http://www.inclusion.com/inclusion.html
- Kids Together, Inc. website
  - http://www.kidstogether.org/inclusion.htm

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